

REMARKS/ ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Rejections

Examiner rejected claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 20 has been amended. No new matter has been added.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 1,699,302 (hereinafter "Mayer").

Examiner also rejected claims 1 and 3-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,384,185 (hereinafter "Bovenschen").

The examiner has further rejected claims 10-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,542,371 (hereinafter "Webb").

To anticipate a claims, the reference must teach every element of the claim. A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." (Manual of Patent Examining Procedures (MPEP) ¶ 2131.)

Applicant's independent claims include limitations not disclosed nor suggested by Mayer, Bovenschen, nor Webb. Therefore, applicant's independent claims are not anticipated by Mayer, Bovenschen, or Webb.

In particular, applicant's independent claims include the limitation, or limitation similar thereto, of a thermal interface including a plurality of malleable fibers between the first and second surfaces, the compression fibers conforming the fibers into contact with each other and into contact, forming a substantially continuous path among the fibers, to transfer heat between a first and second surfaces.

Neither Mayer, Bovenschen, nor Webb discloses nor suggest a thermal interface including a plurality of malleable fibers between the first and second surfaces, the compression fibers conforming the fibers into contact with each other and into contact, forming a substantially continuous path among the fibers, to transfer heat between a first and second surfaces, as claimed by applicant.

Therefore, considering applicant's independent claims include limitations that are not disclosed nor suggested by Mayer, Bovenschen, nor Webb applicant's independent claims are not anticipated by Mayer, Bovenschen, nor Webb.

Furthermore, the remaining claims that were also rejected as being anticipated by Mayer, Bovenschen, or Webb, depend from one of the independent claims discussed above and therefore also include the distinguishing claim limitations. As a result, the remaining claims are also not anticipated by Mayer, Bovenschen, nor Webb.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call John Ward at (408) 720-8300, x237.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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